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Title: Need to set up a Passport Office in Vellore, Tamil Nadu.

SHRI ABDUL RAHMAN (VELLORE): Vellore District of Tamil Nadu is one of the important revenue generating districts of the country. It has the biggest shoe industries, mega tanneries, meat processing plants, large number of export houses. In addition, Vellore is home to more than 60,000students who travel to foreign countries for their various academic assignments. A sizeable number of people from the area are also working overseas, mostly in the middle and far eastern countries.

As there is no passport office or a Passport Seva Kendra in the area the local population and the business community operating in and around including three neighbouring districts of Thiruvannamalai, Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri have to travel to the nearest passport office which is 200 kms away at Chennai.

I earnestly request the Ministry of External Affairs to set up a passport office in Vellore. It will certainly fulfill the timely demand of the local population and will be a big support to the economic activities of the area.